

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### BRICS Women's Startups Contest 2025

The following Terms and Conditions govern participation in the 2025 BRICS Women's Startups Contest, organised by Serviço Brasileiro de Apoio a Micro e Pequenas Empresas - SEBRAE in collaboration with the BRICS Women's Business Alliance (WBA). By submitting an application, all participants agree to comply with the provisions outlined below, which establish the rights and responsibilities of applicants, the rules of the selection process, and the conditions related to data protection, intellectual property, disqualification, awards, and liability. These Terms are intended to ensure fairness, transparency, and compliance with applicable legal standards, including Brazil's General Data Protection Law (LGPD). Applicants are encouraged to read them carefully before proceeding with their submission.

#### 1. No Guarantee of Selection

Submission of an application does not guarantee selection as a finalist or winner. All applications will undergo a competitive evaluation process, and only projects meeting all criteria may advance to subsequent phases.

#### 2. Data Protection and Privacy

All personal data collected during the application process will be processed in accordance with the Brazilian General Data Protection Law (Lei Geral de Proteção de Dados – LGPD, Law No. 13.709/2018) and applicable international standards. The data will be used exclusively for purposes directly related to the organisation, evaluation, and execution of the contest, including communication with applicants and coordination of the final event.

SEBRAE, as the data controller, may share applicant data with its partners and co-organisers — including the BRICS Women's Business Alliance (WBA), the National Confederation of Industry (CNI), and the WBA Chapters of BRICS countries — strictly for purposes aligned with the contest's objectives, including evaluation, coordination, promotion, and follow-up activities.

Applicants acknowledge that the use of the Award Force platform for applications implies potential **international data transfer**, as data may be hosted in jurisdictions outside Brazil. Based on current recommendations, data will be stored in Europe, which maintains privacy protection standards considered compatible with Brazilian law. By applying, applicants consent to such transfer and storage, including the associated privacy risks.

Further information regarding the processing of personal data can be found in SEBRAE's Privacy Notice at: <https://sebrae.com.br/lgpd>.

### **3. Use of Image and Consent**

Applicants authorise the use of their name, image, voice, and non-confidential project information in promotional and institutional materials related to the contest, without additional compensation.

### **4. Intellectual Property**

All intellectual property rights related to the submitted projects remain the sole and exclusive property of the applicants. Participation in the contest does not entail any transfer of ownership or licensing of intellectual property to SEBRAE, the WBA, or other partners. However, applicants authorise the organisers to disclose non-confidential information about their projects for promotional and reporting purposes.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their submissions do not infringe third-party intellectual property rights and that they possess all necessary rights to present and represent the submitted content.

### **5. Documentation and Disqualification**

Applicants who are selected as finalists must submit the required documentation within the timeline communicated by the organisers. Failure to do so may result in disqualification and forfeiture of any awards or benefits, including the fully funded trip to the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

In addition, the following circumstances may result in disqualification at any stage:

- Submission of false or misleading information;
- Violation of third-party rights;
- Failure to comply with these Terms and Conditions;
- Non-compliance with the eligibility criteria or applicable laws.

### **6. Elimination and Data Retention**

Personal data collected via the application platform will be retained only for as long as necessary to fulfil the contest's purposes or to comply with legal obligations, including reporting and accountability to public or regulatory bodies. After the conclusion of the contest, data will be eliminated from the operator's systems (e.g., Award Force) and maintained by SEBRAE only where legally required and in anonymised or restricted form, as allowed by Article 16 of the LGPD.

## 7. Awards, Responsibility, and Limitation of Liability

Finalists will be awarded a trip to participate in the final ceremony of the contest during the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, including:

- International or domestic travel as applicable;
- Accommodation;
- Daily stipend;
- Travel insurance for the official period.

However, **SEBRAE and BRICS WBA will not be liable** for any incidents, damages, losses, or costs arising from:

- Activities undertaken by finalists outside the official programme;
- Personal travel extensions or detours;
- Non-compliance with travel regulations or safety guidance.

Participants are responsible for their own conduct and for ensuring adherence to local laws and customs when outside official activities.

## 8. Amendments and Cancellation

The organisers reserve the right to amend, suspend, or cancel any part of the contest or these Terms and Conditions at any time, including but not limited to adjustments in deadlines, selection criteria, or award logistics, in response to unforeseen events or force majeure. In such cases, reasonable efforts will be made to notify participants in advance through the official contest channels.

## 9. Acceptance of Terms

By submitting an application, the applicant confirms that they have read, understood, and agreed to these Terms and Conditions and to SEBRAE's Privacy Notice.